## Important Changes about the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP or Food Stamps)

Effective October 1, 2017, SNAP, (Food Stamp) federal guidelines for income and deductions and benefit amounts are changing. Based on the information in your case, you may see an increase or a decrease in your SNAP (Food Stamp) benefit. Your SNAP (Food Stamp) eligibility is calculated with different deductions depending on your household's circumstances.

Effective October 1, 2017, the Standard Deduction is increasing for all households. Everyone receives a Standard Deduction. Based on this increase, you may see an increase to your SNAP (Food Stamp) benefit.

- Household size of one to three will increase from \$155 to \$160
- Household size of four will increase from \$168 to \$170
- Household size of five will increase from \$197 to \$199
- Household size of six or more will increase from \$226 to \$228

Effective October 1, 2017, the Utility allowances are changing. Higher deduction amounts may lead to an increase in SNAP (Food Stamp) benefits. A lower deduction amount may lead to a SNAP (Food Stamp) benefit decrease.

- The Standard Utility Allowance is increasing from \$347 to \$365
- The Without Heating Allowance is increasing from \$267 to \$285
- The Telephone Only Allowance is increasing from \$60 to \$65

Effective October 1, 2017, benefit amounts are decreasing. You may see a decrease in your SNAP (Food Stamp) benefit even with the above income and deduction changes.

Effective October 1, 2017, the income limits for SNAP (Food Stamps) are increasing. Please go to **jobs.utah.gov/customereducation/services/foodstamps/qualify.html** on October 1 to view the new income limits. Increased income limits could mean your household is eligible for SNAP (Food Stamp) benefits. You may apply at any time online at **jobs.utah.gov/myCase**.

